

DTR-5844

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DD/S 70-4891

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: New Senior Seminar

1. Colonel White called Mr. Cunningham and me to talk about the proposed new Agency Senior Seminar. He had discussed the subject with the Director following the last Deputies' meeting discussion. The Director was not completely sold on the validity of the course and limited his approval to a single running, upon completion of which a very hard review and evaluation will be accomplished. The Director was also not completely happy with the three-month duration, believing that this involved a very heavy drain on senior Agency officials' time. He "worried" the question of whether the problem of training is becoming a way of life and the time taken from senior officials as they are called upon to speak to such a course. Colonel White stressed the importance of putting together a first class program for the first running of the new Senior Seminar.
2. Colonel White suggested to Mr. Cunningham that the Director's remarks indicated the desirability of conducting an overall review to insure that we are not presenting repetitively various courses merely because they have been on the schedule traditionally.
3. Mr. Cunningham stated that he was not surprised at the Director's action since it fit with some of the sentiments he expressed to the Midcareer students last Friday. At that time his remarks included a reference to a statement of his own father that "education is the most selfish of occupations".

John W. Coffey  
Assistant Deputy Director  
for Support

ADD/S:JWC/es  
Retyped:ms (17 Dec 70)  
Distribution:

Orig - DD/S Subject  
1 - Director of Training ✓  
1 - DD/S Chrono

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CLANDESTINE SERVICE SUPPORT OFFICERS' MEETING

DDS Conference Room

9 December 1970

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

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"4. c. Personnel Changes [redacted] has been named Director of the new Senior Seminar. The seminar will be designed for officers grade GS-15 and higher and will run for three months for about twenty students. The first seminar is planned for the fall of 1971. In proposing this course, Mr. Hugh Cunningham pointed out that much attention has been given to improving and broadening Agency training for junior and mid-career officers and that these objectives deserve at least equal emphasis at the senior officer level. The plan will be to provide senior officers with the time and resources to review the status of the intelligence profession; to comprehend developing trends and necessities of which they may be only partially aware; to hear and discuss the most profound judgments available concerning foreign and domestic affairs, the relationship between them, and the potential impact of events upon intelligence as a major function of government. Most of all, Mr. Cunningham said, we should provide those officers who are in line of succession to senior managerial positions with an opportunity to address themselves in the most sophisticated fashion to the organizational and management problems which they will be inheriting."

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

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4 December 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Executive Director-Comptroller on 2 December 1970

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

"3. The proposal for a senior seminar was discussed at some length. Mr. Karamessines expressed concern with taking as many senior people away from their jobs for as long a period as proposed. He urged that we begin with a less ambitious approach in terms of numbers, length, and frequency. Mr. Duckett urged that we review the mid-career age and grade criteria as it appeared that at least for his Directorate the two courses might overlap. Dr. Smith said that he was vaguely negative regarding the proposal, saying that he expected his senior officers to be already fairly knowledgeable of the subject matter proposed to be covered in the course. Mr. Bannerman supported the proposal but suggested that perhaps the grade level be expanded to include 14's. Mr. Coffey believed that a modest approach was in order; the others present supported the general proposition. Mr. Cunningham responded to the various comments. Colonel White received no objection to a decision to commit ourselves to a first running next fall with the grades limited to GS-15 and GS-16. He will review with the Director and, subject to his approval, Mr. Cunningham will go ahead with the planning for the course."

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

/s/ Robert S. Wattles

Director of Personnel